



# Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

## Sanctuary Office Report



Volume 2, Number 2

A REPORT FOR THE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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### ABOUT THE SANCTUARY

Designated in 1992, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS or Sanctuary) is a federally protected marine area offshore of California's central coast. Stretching from Marin to Cambria, the MBNMS encompasses a shoreline of 276 miles and 5,322 square nautical miles of ocean.

Supporting one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems, it is home to numerous mammals, seabirds, fishes, invertebrates and plants in a remarkably productive coastal environment. The MBNMS was established for the purpose of resource protection, research, education and public use of this national treasure.

### NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) AND NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM (NMSP) NEWS

#### 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology

During the week of January 3, the National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) participated in the 38th Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology in York, England, hosted by the Society for Historical Archaeologists. The NMSP focused on efforts to manage U.S. maritime archaeological resources within sanctuary waters. Subjects included the use of live video links from maritime heritage resource sites direct to classrooms, and explain the advantages of this technology in teaching history, science, geography, and archaeology in an educational setting, plus a discussion of NOAA's collaboration with the U.S. Navy to search for the Navy's first submarine—*USS Alligator*. This activity highlights NOAA's work to promote stewardship and education of the nation's maritime heritage.

### The Portland a Historic Place

NOAA announced that the wreck of the Steamship Portland has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Registry is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. The Portland rests on the sea bottom in the NOAA Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary off the Massachusetts coast. The Portland qualified for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by meeting three criteria. First, the steamship was associated with events that made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of U.S. history. Second, the Portland embodied the distinctive characteristics of a type, period and/or method of construction. Third, its archaeological remains have yielded, or will likely yield, important historical information. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service, part of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

### Ocean Forum

A highly successful Ocean Forum co-hosted by the NMSP, The Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association, and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, was held in San Francisco on Jan. 13, 2005, with over 400 people in attendance. The Forum panelists discussed the vital role that oceans play in our lives, what steps are being initiated that impact the future of California's coasts and ocean, and how individual actions can have a profound impact on ocean health. The keynote speaker was Leon Panetta, Director, Leon and Sylvia Panetta Institute for Public Policy. Forum moderator was Michael Krasny, Host, KQED Radio "Forum". Panelists included Michael Chrisman, Secretary for Resources, State of California; John E. McCosker, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, California Academy of Sciences; Kate Wing, Ocean Policy Analyst, Natural Resources Defense Council; and Daniel J. Basta, Director, NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program.

## NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS

### Channel Islands NMS

Channel Islands National Park and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary launched the festivities of their 25th anniversaries in the “From Shore to Sea” lecture series by featuring speakers who have made significant contributions in protecting the resources of the park and sanctuary. The series kicked off with a presentation by Channel Islands National Park superintendent Russell Galipeau entitled “Protecting Biological Diversity – The Role of the National Park Service.” The 2005 lecture series was free and open to the public and was expanded to include lectures in Santa Barbara as well as Ventura.

### Gulf of the Farallones NMS

Fresh tarballs up to 20cm in diameter are being found on Bay Area beaches from Point Reyes National Seashore in the north, ranging south into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Special beach surveys are being conducted by sanctuary staff and by Beach Watch monitoring volunteers. Extreme spring tides and high storm surf have limited the extent to which many beaches could be surveyed. No oiled wildlife has been reported in the Gulf of the Farallones, but Monterey sanctuary’s Beach COMBERS found 8 oiled common murres. The tarballs are being sent to the Office of Spill Prevention and Response for analysis to determine the source of the oiling. The analysis is expected next week.

### Florida Keys NMS

On the afternoon of January 14th, 2004, two local fishing charter boat captains reported the release of jet fuel by a military aircraft overhead in the vicinity of Western Sambo, off Boca Chica Naval Air Station (NAS). One of the two captains and his vessel were actually doused with jet fuel as a result of the incident. After inquiries by sanctuary staff, the Navy confirmed that one of their KC-135 refueling aircraft had to make an emergency landing at Key West NAS because it lost power in one engine. The aircraft dumped approximately 50,000 lbs. of fuel, at an altitude of 3,000 feet, before it landed at air station. The aircraft was on the last leg of the landing pattern, traveling west to east on its approach. This information has been forwarded to NOAA HAZMAT in Seattle, which will run trajectory and dispersal models. Sanctuary staff will attempt to investigate the area to determine any resource damage.

### Flower Garden Banks NMS

The sanctuary met with the Habitat Protection Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council in Baton Rouge, LA, on January 12. Staff recommended 15 banks in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico for designation as Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) and Coral Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The recommendations were based on recent mapping, research and exploratory surveys supported by the sanctuary, NOAA’s Office of Ocean Exploration, and the Department of the Interior’s Minerals Management Service. Among the motions passed by the Council and forwarded to the DOC for approval were the following:

- ❖ Fifteen banks in the northwest Gulf to be designated as HAPC's, with boundaries recommended by the sanctuary. No specific regulations are carried with this designation, but special consideration is given to these areas during the development of regional fisheries management plans.
- ❖ Three banks containing coral reefs (East and West Flower Gardens and McGrail Bank), and Stetson Bank to be designated as Coral EFH, with boundaries recommended by the sanctuary. The Council passed a motion to adopt fishing restrictions in the Coral EFH areas: prohibit anchoring, trawling, bottom longlines, and buoy and trap/pot gear.

The three banks in the sanctuary are already protected from bottom impacts through sanctuary regulations. McGrail Bank, 53nm to the east, however, is not so protected. The sanctuary has documented up to 30% coral cover in some locations on this bank. The designation of Coral EFH through the HAPC process is a necessary step for protection of this unique coral reef ecosystem.

The sanctuary teamed up with NURC-UNCW, and United Space Alliance (USA)/NASA to conduct remotely operated vehicle (ROV) surveys and SCUBA operations in the NW Gulf of Mexico, on board the USA Ship *Liberty Star* - one of two ships contracted by NASA and used to recover the rocket boosters after a shuttle launch. This unique collaboration resulted in 14 ROV surveys, during which 56 sponges were collected between 175' and 300' depths. Images and identification of these sponges will contribute to the development of regional catalogs. NASA, NURC, and sanctuary SCUBA divers conducted a total of 64 dives to depths of 130' - tasks included removal of invasive orange cup coral, algae collections, and photo documentation.

## Gray's Reef NMS

On December 31st, sanctuary staff responded to a call for support by NOAA Fisheries in the disentanglement efforts on a juvenile endangered right whale. The sanctuary took two vessels to the site and provided the platform from which the disentanglement took place. The whale had first been sighted entangled and trailing a marker buoy on December 6. The animal was successfully disentangled on December 31, while sanctuary staff was on scene 40 miles offshore.

## Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale NMS

NOAA's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Kihei office site was the host for an event on January 9, celebrating the revitalization of the 1600-year old Royal Fishpond adjacent to the sanctuary. A crowd of more than 200 supporters, dignitaries and guests gathered for ceremonies and speeches. Guest speakers included Congressman Ed Case; Peter Young, chairman of the board of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources; Allen Tom, regional coordinator of the National Marine Sanctuary Program; Rob Parsons, Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa's environmental coordinator and Kimokeo Kapahulehua, president of the fishpond association. A canoe landing by the Kihei Canoe Club was followed by blessings and ceremonial chants by the Warriors of Lahaina. Media coverage included a color feature in the *Honolulu Advertiser*, the color cover of the *Maui News*, *Maui Weekly*, *Lahaina News*, *Haleakala Times*, and television news from Honolulu ABC, NBC, CBS and FOX Stations.



Pygmy Sperm Whale

**Photo Credit:** [www.brixhamseawatch.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.brixhamseawatch.fsnet.co.uk)

On January 15, 2005, sanctuary staff helped to coordinate a multi-agency response to the live stranding of a mother and calf pygmy sperm whale, which were beached in rough surf just over a mile from the sanctuary's Kihei, Maui site. Sanctuary staff and a visiting NOAA Fisheries' biologist coordinated the onsite efforts to stabilize and assess the situation. The mother and calf were brought together and held by volunteers in order to prevent them rolling in the surf. After consultation with veterinarians over the phone, the animals were carefully transported to the Hawaiian fishpond adjacent to the sanctuary site so that they could be held in calmer waters into the night, and until the arrival of the veterinarian from Oahu. Sanctuary staff organized the volunteers and logistics for a possible overnight vigil (e.g. lights, food, warm cloth, etc.). Based on advice from the NOAA Fisheries coordinator and the veterinarian from the Hawaiian Islands Stranding Response Group, it was unanimously decided that the only humane course of action was to euthanize the animals. Pygmy sperm whales are offshore, deep-water animals, with a very poor record of recovery from stranding situations. A full necropsy was performed on the female at the

sanctuary site the following day. Sanctuary volunteers and the public were allowed to view the process with interpretation provided by sanctuary educational staff. Some of the agencies involved included: NOAA Fisheries PIRO, NOAA Sanctuaries HIHWNMS, NOAA OLE, USCG (Maui), Hawaii State DLNR (DOCARE and DAR), Maui Police Department, Hawaiian Islands Stranding Response Group, Maui Ocean Center, Fishpond Association of Maui, and Hawaii Wildlife Fund.

## Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve

January 31- Feb 4, the NWHI national marine sanctuary designation process will be featured on the Classroom Exploration of the Oceans 2005, an online virtual teacher workshop. The three-part workshop has a special focus on efforts currently underway to protect and conserve special places in the ocean and explore still unknown areas of the deep ocean. The Reserve Education Coordinator will give a keynote presentation on the NWHI, and attending educators will have a week prior to the workshop to review all the materials and pose questions. There will be other presenters from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

## Stellwagen Bank NMS

The National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) program agreed to partner with the National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) in funding the second year of the 3-year grant to the University of New Hampshire to undertake a History of Marine Animal Population (HMAP) in the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. The University has pioneered the use of detailed historical and archival data for the reconstruction of historical fish stocks before modern fisheries science began. The NMSP had asked the University's HMAP team to apply their unique methodologies to reconstruct historical changes in marine populations and the environment in the sanctuary. This is the first time that NOAA looks at the use of such historical information to understand the history of the natural resources it is charged with managing. This is an important and innovative proposal that serves as a prototype to bring major new sources of data and historical perspectives to marine resource management and conservation.



## MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NEWS AND PROGRAM UPDATES



### JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

The JMPR team is currently preparing a package of materials for the NOAA clearance process. TetraTech, the contractor preparing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), submitted an initial draft which is currently being reviewed by JMPR staff. The DEIS is an analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with any regulatory action that is proposed as part of the JMPR. This is considered a significant milestone and once ready will be significant component in the clearance package. This document, along with the Draft Management Plans for the MBNMS, CBNMS, and GFNMS, will then be reviewed by National Marine Sanctuary Program Leadership, NOAA General Counsel, and then leadership in the National Ocean Service, NOAA, before being cleared by the Office of Management and Budget prior to public release. This clearance process is expected to take approximately five months.

MBNMS staff is also working with the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) in their review of a proposed fishing regulation to restrict disturbance of the Davidson Seamount. The PFMC will be discussing this proposed regulation along with a proposed regulation for Cordell Bank at their March meeting in Sacramento with a decision expected to occur at their April meeting in Tacoma, Washington.

If you have questions regarding the management plan review, please contact Sean Morton at (831) 647-4217 or [sean.morton@noaa.gov](mailto:sean.morton@noaa.gov).

### MANAGEMENT

On February 28, Bill Douros and Brian Baird coordinated a series of meetings involving managers from Cordell Bank NMS, Gulf of the Farallones NMS, Department of Boating and Waterways, State Lands Commission, and Department of Fish and Game to discuss state comments on proposed changes to the sanctuaries designation documents. The State and Federal staffs greatly narrowed the issues of concern, which were presented to California Secretary for Resources, Mike Chrisman, later that same day.

From March 1-7, Bill Douros provided a series of briefings regarding the MBNMS on Capitol Hill to seven congressionals or their staff. He also attended a one-day meeting of the NMSP Leadership team where the discussion focused on the FY06 budget process. While at headquarters, Bill and managers from Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones NMS conducted an internal review of the management plans with Dan Basta and other NMSP leadership.

From March 8th through the 10th Huff McGonigal attended the Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in Sacramento. The MBNMS has submitted a request to the Council to prepare draft Sanctuary fishing regulations as part of the proposed addition of Davidson Seamount to the Sanctuary. During the week Huff gave a series of presentations to Council subcommittees regarding the process for drafting regulations under the Sanctuaries Act. On Thursday March 10th, Bill Douros addressed the Council proper explaining the initiative and answering questions. A PFMC response is expected by April 22nd. For more information, contact Huff McGonigal at (831) 647-4254.

Holly Price and Scott Kathey met with the USCG Group San Francisco Commander and the Monterey Station Commander to discuss coordination between the USCG and the MBNMS. Topics addressed included a recent change of command at the Station, advance coordination on USCG training exercises to avoid wildlife impacts, coordinated response to small vessel groundings, the planned floating dock for the Fulmar, and USCG representation on the Sanctuary Advisory Council. A follow up meeting is planned in the next month with USCG Station Monterey staff to discuss these and other issues in detail. For more information contact Holly Price at (831) 647-4247.

The MBNMS hosted a presentation on March 16 by Jon Day from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority to various members of the Advisory Council, MPA workgroup and other interested parties. The presentation focused on planning, science and outreach behind a recently completed comprehensive zoning plan for the Barrier Reef. For more information, contact Holly Price at (831) 647-4247.



## RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Andrew DeVogelaere attended the annual National Marine Sanctuary Research Coordinator's meeting held this year in Florida during the first week of February. The National Sanctuary Program is increasing capabilities through many science partnerships with other NOAA programs and outside groups such as the National Park Service. Items discussed at the meeting included the west coast observatory system, site characterization standards, historical assessments of sanctuary areas, NOAA ship and air time allocations, research performance measures, reporting measures on sanctuary health, and numerous other items. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.

Becky Stamski's, MBNMS Sea Grant Fellow, report "The impacts of coastal protection structures in California's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary" is available as a Marine Sanctuaries Conservation Series publication. The report outlines the potential impacts of coastal protection structures on the resources of the MBNMS. While the literature cited in this report focuses predominantly on the California coast, the framework for this discussion could have implications for other actively eroding coastlines. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.

Erica Burton, Research Assistant, created a computer software User's Guide (Laser Measure for Dummies) and trained Video Lab personnel at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI). Laser Measure is a powerful extension tool for Optimus software recently created by MBARI engineer Dan Davis for video and image analysis. The software was used at MBARI by the MBNMS to quantify organisms and habitat found on the Davidson Seamount. For more information, contact Erica Burton at (831) 647-4246.

### SIMoN

On February 16, SIMoN staff met with Brian Johnson, Maria Brown, Jan Roletto, Irina Kogan, Dale Roberts, and Peter Pyle to discuss the simultaneous expansion of the SIMoN program into both the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. This all-day workshop was held at GFNMS and covered most of the ecosystem monitoring programs underway at both sites, as well as site-specific needs in the areas of GIS, web presence, and staff. A similar meeting to discuss expansion of SIMoN to the Channel Islands NMS will take place in April 2005. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart at (831) 647-4222.

On March 11, SIMoN staff received 4 full proposals to study critical prey within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. These proposals will undergo external peer review and review by the SIMoN staff and the SIMoN Science Committee. Proposals cover several topics involving critical prey and a range of costs, up to the maximum of \$175,000. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart at (831) 647-4222.

On March 11, SIMoN staff, with guidance from Bill Douros and Rachel Saunders, was interviewed by a reporter from the Monterey Herald for an article on the invasive Asian kelp, *Undaria pinnatifida*, and introduced species in general. A photographer is scheduled to attend a removal session in Monterey Harbor on March 14, 2005 and the article is highlighted below. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart at (831) 647-4222.

SIMoN has begun development of a web and database system for tracking ocean observatory programs in the central and northern California region. This information management system will be used by the Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS) to manage information on ocean observatory regional partners. This project is being developed by SIMoN in coordination with Stephanie Watson, CeNCOOS Coordinator, and expected to be completed in July of 2005. For more information, contact Josh Pederson at (831) 647-4260.

SIMoN has been working with the National Coastal Data Development Center (NCDDC) to develop new interactive maps for the SIMoN website. Currently, there is one beta test site on water quality monitoring locations. Another map currently under development will highlight marine and coastal geology and habitat classification. These sites should be public by the end of March. For more information, contact Chad King at (831) 647-4248.

## RESOURCE PROTECTION

On February 9, Brad Damitz gave a presentation to the Board of Directors of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, about the issues of coastal erosion and armoring in the MBNMS, and a recently initiated "pilot" effort to implement the sanctuary's Coastal Armoring Action Plan on a sub-regional level for the Southern Monterey Bay region. This talk is part of an overall effort between the MBNMS and AMBAG staff to brief the AMBAG board on the Management Plan actions and strategies. For more information, contact Brad Damitz at (831) 647-4252.

On February 16, Holly Price gave a presentation about the sanctuary's Coastal Armoring Action Plan and recently initiated collaborative effort to address coastal erosion and armoring in Southern Monterey Bay, to the California Coastal Commission at their monthly meeting, which was held in Monterey from 2/16-2/18. For more information contact Holly at (831) 647-4247.

Bill Douros and Holly Price attended the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force meeting in Monterey on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bill testified at the meeting and provided a letter to the Task Force asking that it select the Monterey Bay NMS as the basic boundary for the central coast pilot project for this phase of the MLPA. Such a determination will allow the Sanctuary to focus its MPA working group on federal waters while the MLPA process is working on state waters.

The MBNMS Special Marine Protected Areas multi-stakeholder workgroup met on February 28 to discuss questions and criteria for an MPA decision-support tool, identify priority fishery and gear types for fishermen interviews, outline non-consumptive use studies, and present timelines for the coming year. For more information, contact Holly Price at (831) 647-4247.

SIMoN staff and Lisa de Marignac met with Drs. Mark Carr and Pete Raimondi, principal investigators for the Partnership of Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) and faculty at the University of California, Santa Cruz, to discuss progress on the intertidal and subtidal surveys conducted along the Big Sur coast as part of the marine resources study funded by the Coastal Impact Assistance Program. This effort will help with the management of landslide material that tends to block scenic Highway 1 during the winter months, when CalTrans has to keep the highway open and clear debris. For more information, contact Steve Lonhart at (831) 647-4222.

On March 11, MBNMS management, resource protection and research staff met with management and staff from the Department of Fish and Game and the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) initiative to discuss opportunities for coordination between the existing MBNMS Special Marine Protected Areas workgroup and the State's Central Coast MLPA workgroup which will be established in the next two months. The group discussed coordination and sharing of resources for GIS data layers, selection of a decision support tool, socioeconomic studies on consumptive and non-extractive uses, and sharing of interim results between the two workgroups. These two efforts working in parallel could lead to a coordinated evaluation of MPA options across state and federal waters. For more information, contact Holly Price at (831) 647-4247.

On January 31, 2005, the 62-foot (originally reported as 52 feet) wood hull, motor Yacht ALBION began taking on water while under tow from San Diego to Oregon. The vessel sank 2 miles NNE of Monterey Harbor with an estimated 1700 gallons of diesel aboard. Initial attempts to raise the vessel and remove potential fuel reserves have failed. The salvor has demobilized and left the scene. The USCG MSO San Francisco is considering future alternative actions in consultation with the MBNMS and State of California. MBNMS staff is urging the USCG to remove the fuel from the vessel. For more information, contact Scott Kathey at 831-647-4251.

## **Water Quality**

The 2004 First Flush report was released the week of March 7. The First Flush event, first major storm of the season, took place on October 17, 2004, in seven cities within the sanctuary. High bacteria, orthophosphate, zinc and copper concentrations continue to be a problem in many of the participating cities. The report can be downloaded at [www.montereybay.noaa.gov/onitoringnetwork/events.html](http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov/onitoringnetwork/events.html). For more information, contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 883-9303.

On February 8, Bridget Dobrowski, Agriculture Water Quality Coordinator, gave a presentation on the MBNMS Agriculture and Rural Lands Plan to 50 farmers in Paso Robles, as part of the University of California Cooperative Extension's Farm Water Quality Planning Short Course. For more information, contact Bridget Dobrowski at (831) 647-4219.

On February 14th, Bridget Hoover, Network Coordinator, assisted staff from the Elkhorn Slough Foundation and ESNERR to monitor water quality in about 40 ponds of the Elkhorn Slough watershed. The goal was to assess habitat and water quality in ponds where amphibians live. For more information contact Bridget Hoover, (831) 883-9303.

On March 2, Bridget Hoover, Network Coordinator, participated in the first "Tracking and Monitoring Council" sponsored by the US EPA, California Coastal Commission and the CA State Water Resources Control Board. The objectives and goals of this council are very similar to a tracking and evaluation system that the Water Quality Protection Program has begun developing. For more information, contact Bridget Hoover at (831) 883-9303.

MBNMS staff conducted a Water Quality Protection Program Committee meeting on March 3. The committee was provided with staff updates and reviewed local water quality monitoring data to evaluate program implementation. For more information, contact Chris Coburn at (831) 420-1670.

## EDUCATION, VOLUNTEER AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Lisa Emanuelson presented at the 2005 West Coast LiMPETS workshop in Santa Barbara March 3-6. Twenty six teachers from all along the west coast participated in the workshop and learned about each of the five west coast sanctuaries, were trained in both rocky intertidal and sandy beach protocols and participated in rocky intertidal and sandy beach monitoring. Four teachers from the Monterey area attended including one state parks representative interested in implementing LiMPETS protocols for volunteer monitoring efforts. For more information, contact Lisa Emanuelson at (831) 521-9512.

The first meeting of TeamOCEAN kayak outreach for 2005 took place on March 1. Fifteen interested volunteers attended and signed up for the TeamOCEAN training sessions to begin March 31. For more information, contact Lisa Emanuelson at (831) 521-9512.

On March 12, Stacia Fletcher attended the Depot Park Grand Opening Celebration in Santa Cruz. The Depot Park site sits adjacent to the site slated for the MBNMS Visitor Center. California Secretary of State nominee, Bruce McPherson, speaker at the event, mentioned the important role projects like the Depot Park and the planned MBNMS Visitor Center and Education Facility play in the community. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher (831) 420-1630.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

On March 12, the MBNMS along with the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Sanctuary Currents Symposium at California State University Monterey Bay. The theme of the symposium was "*Tracking the Health of Our Sanctuary*". The morning highlighted monitoring efforts within the sanctuary. The afternoon featured the Ed Ricketts Memorial Lecture, given by Dr. Barb Block of Hopkins Marine Station, and a discussion by Dr. Andy Rosenberg of UNH and Dr. Steve Palumbi of Hopkins Marine Station asking the question "*Does good science lead to sound policy?*". There were approximately 300 attendees, 60 scientific posters and 22 exhibitors at the event. During a reception afterwards, 10 awards were presented to various community members, organizations, businesses, students and elected officials who have helped further the mission of the Sanctuary. For more information, contact Andrew DeVogelaere at (831) 647-4213.



Ed Leidig, Dave Vincent and Phil Jenkins receiving awards from Ralph Rubio and Bill Douros for Organization/Institution for the three State Park Districts within the Sanctuary.

**Photo by: Steve Lonhart/MBNMS**

### 2005 SANCTUARY REFLECTION AWARDS

Ruth Vreeland Public Official Award	Emily Reilly, City of Santa Cruz
Citizen	Carol Maehr, Monterey
Conservation	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network Volunteers
Education	Kelly Miller, Monterey Academy of Oceanographic Sciences
Science/Research	Dr. Bob Lea, CA Department of Fish and Game
Business	Monterey Bay Kayaks
Organization/Institution	CA Department of Parks and Recreation
Special Recognition	John Laird, Assembly Member 27 <sup>th</sup> District

## MERITO

On March 3 and 4, the MERITO team kicked off two new Watershed Academy after-school programs for Spring 2005 at Kammann Elementary School and the Girls Scouts in Salinas. MERITO's Watershed Academy After-school Program started in February and March has now expanded to thirteen programs throughout the Pajaro, Watsonville, Marina, Seaside and Salinas regions, reaching a total of 226 students for the 2004-2005 school year. This program provides hands-on, inquiry based watershed and ocean science experiences for 5th to 8th grade students that are predominately English language learners. For more information, contact Cristy Cassel at (831) 647-4215.

On February 5, MERITO staff coordinated the second National Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB) practice session and field experience for Otter Bowl diversity teams at the Natural Bridges State Park and Long Marine Laboratory and Discovery Center. Twenty seven high school students and 5 coaches from San Jose, Newark Memorial, Albany and Oakland high schools participated in LiMPETS tidepool monitoring, a tour of Long Marine Laboratory and an Otter Bowl practice session focused on the MBNMS, ocean science and conservation issues. For more information on NOSB contact Michelle Templeton, MERITO Program Manager at (831) 647-4211.

During February and March, MERITO staff presented to 210 English language learners through five classes with the Watsonville, Salinas and Castroville Adult Education programs. The presentations focused on water quality issues and the Davidson seamount and was followed by an interactive watershed model demonstration addressing urban runoff. Participants also had the opportunity to sign up for the upcoming MERITO "Kayak Day" and were provided free passes to the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. For more information, contact Claudia Pineda, MERITO Bilingual Outreach Specialist at (831) 647-4212.



On March 13, MERITO hosted its fifth Kayak Day. Twenty-nine community members from Santa Cruz to Salinas, participated in the Spanish bilingual tour focused on natural history and conservation of the Elkhorn Slough and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary waters. Kenton Parker of the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve joined the MERITO team as a naturalist guide. Participants were also provided with goodie bags and free passes to ESNERR following the paddle. All kayak and equipment rentals were donated by Monterey Bay Kayaks. For more information, contact Michelle Templeton at (831) 647-4211.

MERITO staff with a group of Kayak Day participants.

**Photo Credit: Cristy Cassel**

On March 6, as part of the MERITO effort, Michelle Templeton presented on urban and agricultural runoff issues affecting sanctuary health during a follow-up teacher workshop with Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. The workshop series focuses giving high school teachers the tools to conduct lessons on seabird mortality and harmful algal blooms in the classroom. For more information, contact Michelle Templeton at (831) 647-4211.

## VISITOR CENTER

On February 3rd, representatives from Thomas Hacker Architects, Booz Allen Hamilton, NOAA Ocean Service, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the City of Santa Cruz and several consultant groups conducted an Eco-Charette in Santa Cruz to discuss green building strategies for the MBNMS Visitor Center. Additionally, continued planning steps were covered later that afternoon and on Friday afternoon on February 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher (831) 420-1630.

On Thursday evening, February 3rd, approximately 60 people attended a public meeting in Santa Cruz about the current status of the MBNMS Visitor Center project. Representatives from BIOS, Thomas Hacker Architects, the MBNMS and the City of Santa Cruz made a presentation to the public and then were available to receive public comment and to answer questions. The Sanctuary Advisory Council also participated in a similar forum in its meeting on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher at (831) 420-1630.

On March 8, representatives from Thomas Hacker Architects, the MBNMS and the City of Santa Cruz made a presentation to Santa Cruz City Council about the MBNMS Visitor Center and Education Facility. A motion was carried unanimously by the City Council expressing their strong interest in maintaining momentum of the project as presented to the City Council, including the schematic design, the general scale concept and site plan do meet the approval of the Council, with the understanding that it will go through further evolution, and requesting that City of Santa Cruz staff come back with suggestions on funding for architectural Schematic Design. For more information, contact Stacia Fletcher at (831) 420-1630.



## SIGNIFICANT NEWS COVERAGE

“Marine sanctuary safe from drilling; Moratoriums protect waters, but plan would give states leverage” by Tonya Clayton, Monterey County Herald, 2/12/05

“No harm in extending offshore oil leases. Federal agency says” by Kenneth Weiss, Monterey County Herald, 2/12/05

“Coastal panel head to speak at marine sanctuary office” Monterey County Herald, 2/14/05

“The sexiest vegetarian alive?; Monterey man vies for title in PETA contest” by Jonathan Segal, Monterey County Herald, 3/4/05, highlights MBNMS Assistant Management Plan Coordinator Paul Chetirkin.

“More Monterey Bay algae blooms feared” San Jose Business Journal, 3/4/05

“Monterey resident Paul Chetirkin just may be America’s sexiest vegetarian” by Michelle Caldwell, Monterey County Weekly, 3/10/05

“Seaweed eradication effort working; While the kelp is declining, it won’t all be gone anytime soon” by Andreas Von Bubnoff, Monterey County Herald, 3/14/05

“SAM makes move to recycled water” by Jeanine Gore, Half Moon Bay Review, 3/9/05

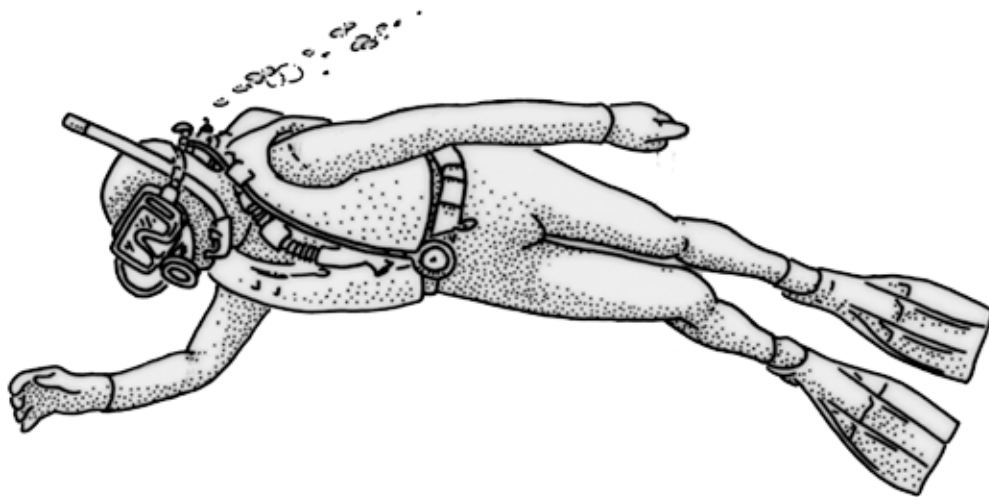
“As we see it: Positive change at Depot Park” Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/10/05

“Train depot reborn as Santa Cruz’s ‘Central Park’” by Shanna McCord, Santa Cruz Sentinel, 3/11/05

Two calendar items in the Monterey County Weekly and Santa Cruz Good Times regarding the Sanctuary Currents Symposium.

“Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Update” by Bob Walch, Peninsula Post, March 2005

“Complaint filed over watercraft at Mavericks” by Jeanine Gore, Half Moon Bay Review, 3/23/05



## **WEB SITE (<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/>)**

### **Recent Updates**

Visit the web pages listed below to see recently updated sections of the MBNMS web site.

- 2004 First Flush Report  
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/monitoringnetwork/events.html#ff2004>
- Agriculture Water Quality Alliance (AWQA)  
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/awqa/welcome.html>
- Ecosystem Observations  
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/reports/ecobs.html>

*Please take a few moments to peruse the site. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.  
Comments and suggestions can be sent to [andrew.white@noaa.gov](mailto:andrew.white@noaa.gov).*

## **FUN, OCEAN RELATED WEB SITES**

### **Encyclopedia of the Sanctuaries**

<http://www.ocean.com/Library/Encyclopedia/>

### **NOS Data Explorer**

<http://www.nos.noaa.gov/dataexplorer/welcome.html>

### **SIMON**

[www.mbnms-simon.org](http://www.mbnms-simon.org)

### **National Marine Sanctuary Program**

<http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

### **NOAA Publications Library**

[www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/library/library.html](http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/library/library.html)

### **National Estuarine Research Reserve System**

<http://nerrs.noaa.gov/>

### **NOAA Ocean Explorer**

<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/>

### **National Data Buoy Center**

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/rmd.shtml>

### **National Ocean Service**

<http://www.nos.noaa.gov/>

### **National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration**

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

## CALENDAR 2005

<b>APRIL</b>	
April 6	Citizen Monitoring Network/ Coastal Watershed Council Calibration Party, 9 a.m., Santa Cruz Harbor Community Room
April 7	DEIRD/EIS MARS Cable public input
April 8	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
April 9-10	Good Ol' Days of Pacific Grove
April 11-12	MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force meeting, Los Angeles
April 16	Snapshot Day Training, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Natural Bridges in Santa Cruz
April 19	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
April 23	Earthbound Farm's Earth Day Celebration at The Farmstand
April 23	Snapshot Day Training, 9 a.m.-2p.m., San Simeon
April 23	Snapshot Day Training, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., San Mateo
April 23	Birding Field Trip for BeachCOMBERS and TeamOCEAN
April 30	Snapshot Day Training, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., CSUMB Watershed Institute
<b>MAY</b>	
May 7	Snapshot Day Statewide Monitoring Event
May 8	MERITO participation in Mother's Day at Elkhorn Slough NERR
May 13	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., ESNERR
May 16	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
May 17	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
May 21	Urban Watch Training For Monterey, Pacific Grove and Seaside, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., MBNMS office
May 22	Urban Watch Training for Santa Cruz, Capitola and Live Oaks, Location TBD
May 22	MERITO Tidepool Day, 2 p.m.-4p.m., Point Pinos,
<b>JUNE</b>	
June 3	Advisory Council Meeting in Big Sur
June 4	Urban Watch Training for Scott's Valley, Location TBD
June 12	MERITO Hike Day, Elkhorn Slough NERR, 12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
June 21	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
<b>JULY</b>	
July 1	Urban Watch Season begins for Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside Capitola, Live Oaks and Scotts Valley
July 8	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
July 18	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
July 19	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
<b>AUGUST</b>	
Aug 5	Advisory Council Meeting in Cambria
Aug 12	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	
Sept 9	RAP meeting, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Location TBD
Sept 17	California Coastal Cleanup Day, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Sept 18	MERITO Kayak Day, 12:30 p.m.-4p.m.
Sept 19	SEP meeting, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Location TBD
Sept 20	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room
Sept 20	First Flush Training for Monterey, Pacific Grove and Seaside, 6 p.m., MBNMS office
Sept 21	First Flush Training for Santa Cruz, Capitola and Live Oaks
Sept 24	First Flush Field Training and Monitoring Event
<b>OCTOBER</b>	
Oct 7	Advisory Council Meeting in Watsonville
Oct 18	CWG meeting, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moss Landing Harbor District meeting room

**\*\*During 2005, the BTAP will be meeting on an as needed basis\*\***

## Learn More About Your Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Office Report is produced bi-monthly by the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in conjunction with Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings. To learn more about the Sanctuary please visit our web site at: <http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council please visit:  
<http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov/intro/advisory.html>

## The National Marine Sanctuary Program

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is one of 13 marine sanctuaries in the National Marine Sanctuary Program. This program was established under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act of 1972 which authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate as national marine sanctuaries areas of the marine environment or Great Lakes with special national significance due to their conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, cultural, archeological, educational, or aesthetic qualities. Visit the NMSP web site at: <http://www.sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/>

## Get involved and stay informed!

To learn how to get involved in the Sanctuary visit:  
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/educate/internship.html>

Sign up for the MBNMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming Sanctuary events, and public meetings of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and its Working Groups:  
<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/discussiongroups/disgroups.html>.

## MBNMS Staff

**William Douros** – *Sanctuary Superintendent*  
**Holly Price** – Resource Protection Coordinator  
**Andrew DeVogelaere** – Research Coordinator  
**Erica Burton** – Research Assistant  
**Steve Lonhart** – SIMoN Scientist  
**Jean de Marignac** – SIMoN Scientist  
**Chad King** – SIMoN Data Analyst  
**Josh Pederson** – SIMoN Outreach Specialist  
**Dawn Hayes** – Education & Outreach Coordinator  
**Liz Love** – Education Specialist  
**Lisa Emanuelson** – Resource Issue Ed Specialist  
**Michelle Templeton** – MERITO Program Manager  
**Cristy Cassel** – Bilingual Education Specialist  
**Claudia Pineda** – Bilingual Education Specialist  
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**Stacia Fletcher** – Education & Outreach Specialist, Santa Cruz Office  
**Scott Kathey** – Regulatory Coordinator  
**Deirdre Hall** – Permit Coordinator  
**Brad Damitz** – Environmental Policy Specialist  
**Huff McGonigal** – Environmental Policy Specialist  
**Bridget Dobrowski** – Agriculture Water Quality Coordinator  
**Chris Coburn** – Water Quality Protection Program Director  
**Donna Meyers** – Regional Water Quality Coordinator  
**Bridget Hoover** – Water Quality Network Coordinator  
**Lisa de Marignac** – Environmental Policy Specialist  
**Karen Grimmer** – Program Operations Coordinator  
**Sean Morton** – Management Plan Coordinator  
**Paul Chetirkin** – Assistant Management Plan Coordinator  
**Raymond Chisolm** – Program Specialist  
**Rachel Saunders** – Community & Public Relations Coordinator  
**Nicole Capps** – Advisory Council Coordinator & Management Support Specialist  
**Heather Cauldwell** – Administrative Assistant  
**Dave Lott** – GIS Coordinator  
**Andrew White** – Network Manager



## – Contact Information –

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